

What is claimed is:

CLAIMS

1. A method comprising:  
  
if a change in configuration of storage occurs during one mode of operation of a device, storing, in the storage, data indicative, at least in part, of resulting configuration of the storage resulting after the change, the device having a relatively lower power consumption rate while the device is operating in the one mode of operation compared to a relatively higher power consumption rate while the device is operating in another mode of operation.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
  
in response, at least in part, to a request to operate in the another mode of operation, storing, at least in part, based at least in part upon the data, other data indicative at least in part of the resulting configuration of the storage; and  
  
executing, based at least in part upon the other data, one or more operations involving, at least in part, the storage.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein:  
  
the data comprises metadata.
4. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
  
while the device is operating in the one mode of operation, preventing execution of one or more pending operations involving, at least in part, the storage.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein:

the change in the configuration of the storage comprises at least one of a volume change and a storage device change.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein:

the one mode of operation comprises a suspend mode of operation; and

the another mode of operation comprises a resume mode of operation.

7. The method of claim 6, further comprising:

in response, at least in part, to a request to operate in the one mode of operation, storing information indicating, at least in part, status of one or more processes being executed, at least in part, by the device.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein:

the storage comprises a redundant array of inexpensive disks; and

the device comprises a host processor capable of executing a driver capable of accessing the data while the device is operating in the another mode of operation.

9. An apparatus comprising:

circuitry capable of storing in storage, if a change in configuration of storage occurs during one mode of operation of a device, data indicative, at least in part, of resulting configuration of the storage resulting after the change, the device having a relatively lower power consumption rate while the device is operating in the one mode of operation compared to a relatively higher power consumption rate while the device is operating in another mode of operation.

10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein:

the circuitry is also capable of, in response, at least in part, to a request to operate in the another mode of operation, storing, at least in part, based at least in part upon the data, other data indicative at least in part of the resulting configuration of the storage; and

the circuitry is also capable of executing, based at least in part upon the other data, one or more operations involving, at least in part, the storage.

11. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein:

the data comprises metadata.

12. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein:

the circuitry is also capable of, while the device is operating in the one mode of operation, preventing execution of one or more pending operations involving, at least in part, the storage.

13. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein:

the change in the configuration of the storage comprises at least one of a volume change and a storage device change.

14. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein:

the one mode of operation comprises a suspend mode of operation; and

the another mode of operation comprises a resume mode of operation.

15. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein:

the circuitry is also capable of, in response, at least in part, to a request to operate in the one mode of operation, storing information indicating, at least in part, status of one or more processes being executed, at least in part, by the device.

16. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein:

the storage comprises a redundant array of inexpensive disks; and

the device comprises a host processor capable of executing a driver capable of accessing the data while the device is operating in the another mode of operation.

17. An article comprising:

a storage medium having stored therein instructions that when executed by a machine result in the following:

if a change in configuration of storage occurs during one mode of operation of a device, storing, in the storage, data indicative, at least in part, of resulting configuration of the storage resulting after the change, the device having a relatively lower power consumption rate while the device is operating in the one mode of operation compared to a relatively higher power consumption rate while the device is operating in another mode of operation.

18. The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions when executed also result in:

in response, at least in part, to a request to operate in the another mode of operation, storing, at least in part, based at least in part upon the data, other data indicative at least in part of the resulting configuration of the storage; and

executing, based at least in part upon the other data, one or more operations involving, at least in part, the storage.

19. The article of claim 17, wherein:

the data comprises metadata.

20. The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions when executed also result in:

while the device is operating in the one mode of operation, preventing execution of one or more pending operations involving, at least in part, the storage.

21. The article of claim 17, wherein:

the change in the configuration of the storage comprises at least one of a volume change and a storage device change.

22. The article of claim 17, wherein:

the one mode of operation comprises a suspend mode of operation; and

the another mode of operation comprises a resume mode of operation.

23. The article of claim 22, wherein the instructions when executed also result in:

in response, at least in part, to a request to operate in the one mode of operation, storing information indicating, at least in part, status of one or more processes being executed, at least in part, by the device.

24. The article of claim 17, wherein:

the storage comprises a redundant array of inexpensive disks; and

the device comprises a host processor capable of executing a driver capable of accessing the data while the device is operating in the another mode of operation.

25. A system comprising:

a circuit board comprising read only memory (ROM) to store instructions; and

circuitry capable of executing the instructions, execution of the instructions by the circuitry resulting in:

if a change in configuration of storage occurs during one mode of operation of a device, storing, in the storage, data indicative, at least in part, of resulting configuration of the storage resulting after the change, the device having a relatively lower power consumption rate while the device is operating in the one mode of operation compared to a relatively higher power consumption rate while the device is operating in another mode of operation.

26. The system of claim 25, wherein:  
the circuitry comprises a processor;  
a circuit board also comprises one or more integrated circuits coupled to the processor and capable of being coupled to the storage; and  
the storage comprises a redundant array of inexpensive disks (RAID).
27. The system of claim 26, wherein:  
respective copies of the data are stored in respective storage devices comprised in the RAID.
28. The system of claim 27, wherein:  
the circuit board also comprises a bus and a circuit card slot coupled to the bus, the slot being coupled to the processor via the chipset.
29. The system of claim 25, wherein:  
the instructions are comprised in basic input/output system (BIOS) instructions stored in the ROM.